

SATURDAY. AUG. 80 1902



DID IT PAY?

Why Gershom Bender Quit Selling His Cider to the Saloon Keeper in the Village,

As Gershom Bender rode home in the chill twilight his usually cheerful face was not pleasant to look upon and his reflections were even more unpleasant than his face. The trouble began at the breakfast table. Grace, his only daughter, a bright, wide-awake girl of 16, had exclaimed:

"O, papa! I do wish you were not going to take that cider to old Mr. Schwinbeck to-day."

"Not take the cider?" said he. "What objection have you to that?" "So many objections that I don't

know which to name first. You know just what old Mr. Schwinbeck does with your cider-he puts whisky with it, and folks say he does more harm with it than any other saloonkeeper in town. The old topers, and young ones, too, are just crazy after it."

"Well, what of it? I don't sell to Schwinbeck cider somebody else

"Now, papa, you are too sensible a somebody else sold Mr. Schwinbeck the cider you could not be blamed for it."

"Well, I tell you it pays. I have sold him 30 barrels plready, and I will take two barrels to-day. If it hadn't been for the cider money I don't believe I would have got the new spring wagon this fall, and you might have had to

mere dress to the end of my days than 'Colonel's harness, varied somewhat by have one bought with old Mr. Schwin- his halting, painful steps: "Worse beck's money," said Grace, while an than a fool! Worse than a fool," and indignant flush swept over her face. Gershom Bender said half aloud: "What in the world is the matter with old Schwinbeck's money? Isn'tit as good as any other man's?"

"No, it isn't," said Grace, very demen into his saloon, and then he sells them what can do them nothing but that does the harm. O, papa, please do

"What has got into your head anyhow?" said Gershom Bender, as he moved uneasily on his chair. "Where but a few weeks ago, on a day when have you picked up such foolishness? he had taken a load of cider to town. prehension?" I believe it is that Mrs. Stedmore and On that day his son Jim and the hired her temperance meetings; she might



GRACE AND HER FATHER.

s good sight better be at home darnwith her temperance nonsense. And | "Well, I told you so."

what harm is there anyhow in eider?" you remember last winter when poor place beside the Jersey and the colt. fainted. No one was seriously hurt, old Tom Crater froze to death, the Grace looked out of the kitchen win- and the displacement of a few bricks last he was seen alive he was stag- dow and saw her father sitting on a of the building was the only damage gering out of Mr. Schwinbeck's saloon log by the barn. She went out inmuttering something about wanting tending to speak some cheering word. another glass of Bender's cider? And She had never seen so strange and penithe last day I was in town, just as I tent a look on his face, and at sight seat, the audience had recovered its passed Mr. Schwinbeck's, two young of her it changed to one of grim defellows came stumbling out, and a man termination. His voice was not quite miration for the brave young girl in just outside said. 'I guess they have steady as he said: had too much of Gersh Bender's cider.' I felt as though I never wanted to Schwinbeck will never get another be seen in town again." And poor drop of cider from me." Grace blushed even now at the bare Grace's joyous "O, papa, I'm so glad, remembrance of that day. "Remem- so glad!" and the resounding kiss on ber, papa, what happened here not his weather-beaten cheek were even long ago, all owing to hard cider. I sweeter to his money-loving soul than am only too glad Mrs. Stedmore has the jingle of old Schwinbeck's dollars. made me think about this matter, and Anna Beulah Kerr, in Union Signal. now, papa, be honest about this. You talk so much about what pays, and candidly, which do you think would pay the best, for Mrs. Stedmore to stay at home the two evenings a month on which she has her temperance meet- will perfect an organization to fight ings, to darn some old ten-cent socks, for the modification of the liquor or to spend that time in trying to save laws in view of the recent decision the boys? In our pledge we promise not only to abstain from intoxicating drinks, but to discourage the traffic in them. And oh! how I do hate the whole business!"

This was the longest temperance speech Grace had ever made, and in loop bear out of cities. Some apher excitement she had risen from the table and now stood beside her father, with flushed cheeks and glistening

"Do sit down," said Gershom Bender impatiently, "and quit talking of things you know nothing about. As long as old Schwinbeck pays me a lit- married life? tle more for cider than anybody else does, he may have it. Cider never hurts me, at any rate."

with shame of a day, only a week be- Stories. fore, when the minister was taking

dinner with them, and her father's flushed face and senseless talk made it only too apparent that he had imbibed a little too much Bender eider. Immediately after breakfast the

ed on his ten-mile drive. While he was unloading the cider in front of Schwinbeck's saloon one of his neighbors, Sam Mutry, came along

"Hello, Gersh, didn't you bet the 1t, so you may as well pay up to-day." "All right," said Gershom, "come in

and we'll fix it." A group of vermillion-nosed loung-

bottles, with the remark: what you vants—some of last year's reer. Pender cider. I keeps it a purpose till after the 'lections.'

Before Gershom left the saloon he had added some fourth-rate whisky to Bender cider, and on his homeward way a team and wagon came clattering close behind him, and a thick, drunken voice shouted: "Now for a ceive diplomas. The prominence of race, Gersh Bender!"

He had scarcely time to turn his head when he saw Sam Mutry nearly upon him, and too drunk to know what he was doing. In trying to pass Gershom, his horses shied at a piece of loose paper and veered round in such a way that the wheels of his heavy tant thunder. But once inside they wagon struck the lighter ones of Gershom's and-but who can tell just what happened, with one thoroughly drunken man, and the other only half himself! The new spring wagon lay by the roadside almost a total wreck and Colonel, Gershom's fleet, high-spirited horse, the pride of his stable, had an ugly gash on one shoulder. How dismally unlike was this home-

going from the hopeful starting out in the sunny morning!

the old topers, and if I didn't sell side. His mind went back to the leathers. But one dreadful fear opnouncing the selling of cider to old a Friday, too. What dreadful thing man to use that flimsy argument; if Schwinbeck, and it was anything but cheerful to anticipate the look on her face when she would hear the outcome of the day.

A dangling buckle on the horse he was riding kept up a ceaseless jingle, jingle, and to his but partly cleared brain it said: "What a fool! What a fool!" He stooped down and adjusted do without your new cashmere dress." | the offending buckle, and immediately "I would rather do without a cash- the strain was taken up by a piece of than a fool! Worse than a fool," and "Well, I guess it's so."

He was even denied the solace of thinking to secure damages from Sam Mutry, for what could be recovered cidedly. "You know how he makes it, from a man whose farm was mortby doing all he can to entice poor, silly gaged for all it was worth, and whose wife held the purse-strings?

Then he thought of poor Tom Carharm, and you are furnishing the stuff ter, frozen to death along this very road, but a stone's throw from this spot, and of Tom's last maudlin mutterings for more "Bender cider." He thought of what had occurred at home man, following the example the head of the house so frequently set them, Miss Kneen had warmed so impresselves to a little spree on his cider, and of course, drew from the "hard-est" barrel in the lot. In their general feeling of good fellowship and occurred.
wishing to give everything as good a Like a c fatal kick from the old brute's heels. fainted. Somewhat later in the day, in their drunken stupidity, they left the feedroom door invitingly open, and the young girl had been struck by light-best cow, a handsome thoroughbred ning and might die before their eyes. Jersey, walked in and helped herself women gazed on the sight, terror generously to everything she fancied; stricken beyond the power of action. and the next day she was a dead Jer-

ing her man's socks than spending so to me what Grace said, but she had the the stage. much time stuffing you youngsters Christian forbearance not to say:

Two weeks after this poor Colonel cians and others were hurrying to "Papa, how can you ask that? Don't was dragged out to a quiet resting the assistance of those who had

"Well, Grace, it doesn't pay, and old

Indiana Saloon Keepers to Fight. A press correspondent announces that the saloon keepers of Indiana of the supreme court which renders it possible where remonstrances are circulated to have local option. It is predicted that the decision will have the effect of wiping out 25 per cent. of the saloons in the state. It will loon keepers are advocating an organization to control the next legislature in order to enact laws that will nullify the decision of the supreme court.

Exhilarating. Friend-Well, Ethel, how do you like

Ethel (enthusiastically)-It's simply delightful. We've been married a week and have had eight quarrels, and

FIRL SHOWED PLUCK

horses were hitched to the handsome der and Lightning. new wagon that had been bought with Schwinbeck's money, the cider was polled in, and Gershom Bender start-

Like Ajax of Old She Defies Thun-

Miss Kneen Had a Graduating Address to Deliver and the Elements Could Not Keep Her from Sponting.

Even as Ajax once defied the lightsing so did Miss Helen Louise Kneen, elder on the election? Well, you've lost of Derby, Conn., the other day, and with equal success. How she survived the shock which caused women to faint and strong men to grow pale is still a matter of admiring wonder ers about the door came in too. The to her friends, while the young womaffable Schwinbeck set out a row of an laughingly treats her experience ottles, with the remark:
"Yes, yes, shentlemens, here is shust cidents in her short but bright ca-

It was at the graduation exercises of the class of 1902 of the Derby high school that the thrilling incident oc curred which is still the talk of that region of the "Nutmeg state."

On the stage of the Sterling opera house 13 pupils had gathered to re-13, coincident with a Friday, had not been regarded as destitute of signiperienced a decidedly unpleasant sensation while on the way to the opera house as they saw black and angry applauded the 13 pupils with enthu-

The first number of the programme, a chorus by a hundred school children, had just been concluded when Miss Kneen stepped forward to deliver the valedictory address. Undismayed by the rattle of celestial artillery and the vivid flashes of lightning, she began:

"The evening of the 13th of June Is here, and so are we, with our dec-Gershom rode the uninjured horse, orations, our fresh white dresses, our and led poor, limping Colonel by his immaculate shirt bosoms, our patent breakfast table conversation; he presses us. We are 13 in number, thought of Grace's earnestness in de-



MISS KNEEN REMAINED COOL Is to befall us? Is it any wonder that we are on the pins and needles of ap-

"Bang!" went a thunder clap.

Having reached her peroration, thought it a good time to treat them- sively to her subject that she stood

time as they themselves were having, of fire shot through an open window they turned out into the pasture lot and for a second seemed to polse horse of such well-known vicious upon Miss Kneen's finger tips, while habits that he was never allowed the the audience sat spellbound with horfreedom of the fields, and in less than ror. Several pupils on the tier of an hour a promising colt had received seats directly behind Miss Kneen

The coolest, calmest person in the house was Miss Kneen. Still stand-Just then another loose buckle now ing with uplifted arm, she watched took up the song: "Does it pay? Does the ball of fire roll away from her, it pay?" The weary ride ended at last, and after pursuing a serpentine and it makes no difference to you nor course, disappear at the other end of

"As I was saying," continued Miss Kneen-but no one heard her. Physiwrought by the electrical fluid.

When, a moment later, Miss Kneen concluded her address and took her composure sufficiently to vent its adan outburst of applause which was continued for several minutes.

Miss Kneen is a pretty brunette of medium height, 17 years old. Many believe that but for her coolness in the trying situation there would have been a panic in the hall.

"Frightened?" said she when questioned by a New York Herald correspondent, "not in the least. I didn't have time to be. But I conquered the hoodoo, and I am satisfied."

Their Sympathy Was Aroused. A landlord in Athlone, Ireland, having evicted a non-paying tenant, two members of the family waited for him one night in a lonely spot on the outskirts of the town, where he was expected to pass. They had shillelahs in their hands, and intended to give him a severe beating. For some reason, the landlord did not come. "I hope," said one of the waiting men, "that nothing has happened to the poor owld gentleman."

MARVELOUS MEMORY.

Although But Eight Years Old, Ar thur Moser, of Chicago, Is a Scholar of Note.

Probably the youngest prodigy or boy wonder" of the present is Samuel Arthur Moser, of 3252 Vernon avenue, Chicago. The readiness and rapidity Grace said no more, but she thought I got the best of it every time.—Stray with which he answers questions re-with shame of a day, only a week be- Stories.

When the best of it every time.—Stray lating to history and figures is truly lating to history and hist remarkable as well as absolutely cor- :- N. Y. Weekly.

rect. The matter is a natural one, having never been cultivated one instant. His parents and boy friends, while proud of the gift, do not encourage its practice beyond the ordinary every day life. However, he is always anxious to "be doing some-



SAMMY IN THE BARBER SHOP.

thing with figures," as he tells his fond mamma, and this keeps him in prac-

Arthur is the baby of a family of four boys, and was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Moser at Maroa, Ill., June 11, 1894. Mr. Moser lived in Maroa 12 years, operating a general store. He moved his family to Chicago three years ago, and is a traveling salesman for the Michigan Leather company, of Detroit, Mich.

When five years of age his playmates noticed his wonderful aptitude for figures, easily answering all sorts of questions. They believed him "making believe" with his answers, and not until his parents became attracted to the gift was it believed the child correctly answered the questions given him in mathematics and history. His father would take the lad to the barber shop Saturday evenings. While getting shaved he would ask the child what day of the week a certain period fell upon. The quick reply secured the admiration of all within the little shop, and the gift was enlarged upon in the neighborhood.

Now, says the Chicago Tribune, he knows the names of the presidents, the dates of their births and deaths, can tell the day of the week any date came on, and can add imposing sums by mental arithmetic. He has at his tongue's end a mass of geographical and historical information and never stumbles in his answers.

His parents say that outside of two short spells of sickness the child has always been in perfect health, living outdoors on his tiny bicycle most of the time. He is an incessant reader of the Bible, historical works and the daily newspapers, and oftentimes has to be literally driven from reading to

BETRAYED CONFIDENCE.

The German Was Highly Recommended, Yet He Went off with the Captain's Bucket.

This story was told to a New York Times man by the prototype of Capt. Joe, the hero of F. Hopkinson Smith's novel, "Caleb West:"



"HE'S GONE OFF WITH A BUCKET. An Irishman once applied to him for a job on board his ship.

"Well," said the captain, "where are your recommendations?"

"Shure, an' I haven't enny, sur." "Can't take you, then-got a German here with fine recommendations -have to give the job to him."

Pat begged so hard, however, that the captain finally agreed to take him and the German both on a trial trip, the best man to have the permanent

They were well out at sea when a storm arose one day while Pat and the German were scrubbing the deck. A big wave came along and swept the German overboard with his bucket. Pat immediately picked up his bucket and started after the captain. "Well, Pat, what's the matter now?"

the captain inquired. "Faith, sur, ye know that German what had such foine ricommindations?"

"Yes: what of him?" "Begorra, sur, an' he's gone off with one o' your buckets." Many Different Kinds

"That escaped criminal is double-"Double-faced? I should call him thousand-faced, from the number of 'authentic' portraits of him printed in JOHN MITCHELL, JR .. the newspapers."-Cincinnati Com-

Phonette. Bowles-What do you think of my arguments? The Other - Sound-most assured-

mercial Tribune.

Bowles-And what else? The Other-That's all-merely ound .- N. Y. Journal.

Swallowing Abilities. Jack Tar-Ye mightn't believe it, but whales have a very small mouth. Landsman-Yes, I've heard they This offer is, without the least doubt, the greatest value for the least ney ever offered by any newspaper in the whole history of journalism.

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165	Am Voyelberd an 364 Amindian	260	At Noontide
IOI	Audients Abroad, March-Two Step Cook	134	Ave Maria From Cavalleria Rusticana Mascogn i Beautiful Moonlight. Duet Glover
247	Artist's Life Waltzen	238	Beils of Seville H. Jude Ben Bolt, of "Trilby "fame Knears
181	Anatrian Same On 63	282	Between Love and Duty Dryden
337	Bagatelle Polka Waldteufel	246	Blue Eyes Boshood Days, Chorus Bridge, The. Words by Longfellow Bridge Rells Career Career
215	Bagatelle Folka Waldteafel Ballade Four Hands Losschhorn Battle of Waterloo. Bescriptive Anderson Beauties of Paradise Waltz 4 hands Streambog Beauties.	200	Bridge, The. Words by Longfellow Carew Bride Hells
179	Beauties of Paradise Waltz. 4 hands Streambog Beautiful Blue Danube Waltzes . Stranss	276	Brown Eyed Bessie Lee. Chorus Arbuckle Can You. Sweetheart, Keepa Secret? Estabrooke
213		214	Childhood's Happy Hours . Denamore
257	Blue Bells of Scotland. Trans Richards	190	Childhood's Happy Hours Dinamore Christmas Carol Turner Come When the Soft Twilight Falls Schumonn
199	Blooming Rose Polka. Trans. Reefer Bitus Beils of Scotland. Trans. Richards Blusbird Echo Polka. Morrison Boston Gommandery March . Carrier Bridal March from Lohengrin Rogner . Regner	284	Come Back to Our Cottage . Estabrooke Coon's Breach of Promise. Cake walk Blake
109	Bridal March from Lohengrin Wagner	294	Crown of Glory Tours
229	Brunette Waltz Bryan and Sewall March Bragg Noles	250	Durling I Shall Miss You Cohen
255	Cavalry Parade Polka Cavaleria Rusticana. Four hands. Mascagni	244	De Banjo am de Instrument Rutledge
289 133	Cavaleria Rusticana. Four hands. Mascagni Cavaleria Rusticana. Intermezzo Mascagni Cadences and Scales in all Keys . Caerny	302	Dear Heart, We're Growing Old . Estabrooke
327	Colestina manurua	304	Darling Neille Gray De Banjo am de Instrument. Rutledge Dear Heart, We're Growing Old. Estabrooke Dear Little Heart 'Neath the Datsles Rutledge Did You Ever Call Me Darling' Yone Don't drink, my Boy, tonght. Temp. Hoover Elson Elson
237	Chatelain e, La Meuuet	128	Dream of Love Elson
340	Chinese Serenade . Four Hands . Guritt	256	Dream of Love Elson Dream of Spring, A. Op. 1, 2 Curschmann Dwelling with the Angels, Chorus, Turner Easter Eve. Sacred Gounod Ever Sweet is Thy Memory Hotgled
145 217	Cleveland's March	220	Exer Sweet is Thy Memory Goundal Ever Sweet is Thy Memory
269	Coppella. Valse Lente Deibles	318	A
71	Corn Flower Waltzes Coste, Jr Crystal Dew Waltz . Durkee	180	Far Away Father is Drinking Again. Temperance Flag of Our Country. Patriotic Mathiet Flag. The Quarterite Fex Firting in the Starlight Delano
163		152	Flag of Our Country. Patriotic . Mathiet
237	Dewey's Grand Triumphal March . Marcel Diamond Valley Waltz	144	Flirting in the Starlight Delano
303	Edelweiss Hennes	66	For You We are Praying at Home Estabrooke
. ŝi	Estella , Air de Ballot. Very fine Robinson	336	Frost upon the Pane Walterstein
241	Evergreen Waltz	288 202	Gathered Roses . Finsuti
291	Fatinitza Galop Ludwig Faust • Selections • Durkee	178	God Bless My Kind Old Mother Jewell
77	Fifth Nocturne Leybach	262	Greeting Duet . Mendelssohn
239	Flieting in the Starlight, Waltz . Lasaide Flower Song. Op. 39 Lange	324	Haunts of Childhood Disamore
283	Freischutz. Selections - Durkee	198	Haunts of Childhood
177	Froilc of the Frogs Watton Golden Rain. Necturne	184	I Can't Forget the Happy Past Skelly
147	Grand Commandery March—Two Step Missed Heel and Toe Polka Faust Her Bright Smile Hannts Me Stil: . Richards	266	In Summer Time Marrials
185	Her Bright Smile Hannts Me Stil: . Richards	188	It Is a Legend Old
139	Hobson of the Merrimae Waltnes . Jewell Home, Sweet Home. Transcription . Slack	328	Jennie with the Sweet Brown Eyes Rutledge Juanita. Ballad May
157	Hobson of the Merrimae Waltnes - Jewell Home, Sweet Home. Transcription - Stack Jenny Lind polks. Four hands - Muligr Last Hope. Meditation - Gottschalk	196	Kathleen Mayourneen . Crouch
195	Leap Year Schottische	132	Kiss me, but don't say goodbye Eutledon
159	Lee's (Gen'l) "On to Cuba" galop Durkee	164	Riss that bound my Heart to thine Keil Larb card Watch. Duet Williams
141	Leudon March - Two Step . Missua	146	Let me dream again
99	Love's Dreamland Waltzes Roeder Maiden 's Prayer, The Badarceeske	154	Little Boy Blue. Solo or Duet . Estabrooks Little Voices at the Door Danks
240	Martha Selections Johnson May Bre eges. Four hands Krug	96	Lost Chord, The Sullivan
263	May Day Schottische Keefer	308	
55	McKiniey and Hebart March Turner Memorial Day March	1112	Margaretta . Balfe Massa's Sleeping in de Churchyard . Keefer Memories of my Mother. Chorus . Alles
61	Monastery Bells. Nocturne	172	Memories of my Mother. Chorus Alles Mother's Welcome at the Door Estabrooke Musica i Dialogue. Duet Helmusd
125	My Old Kentucky Home. Variations Coek	222	Musical Dialogue. Duet
305		76	My Home by the Old Mil 1 O'Halloran
175	National Authems of Eight Great Nations National Songs of America National Songs of America History Hightingsle's Trill, op. 81 Ocean Waves Waits Old Folks at Home. Transcription History His	216	My Old Kentucky Home . Foster Oh, Sing Again that Gentle Strain Dinamore
271	Ocean Waves Waltz Keefer	270	Oh, Sing Again that Gentle Strain. Dinamore Old Folks at Home (Swance Ribber) Foster Old Village Church . Hotton
171	Old Folks at Home. Transcription . Blake Old Oaken Bucket. The. Variations Darkee	90	Un the Banks of the Beautiful River Estabrooks
219	One Heart. One Soul. Mazurka. Servinas On the Wave Waltz. Dinamore Oregon, Queen of the Sea. Two-step Robinson Orvertta Waltz Spencer Overthe Waves Waltz.	258	Out on the Deep Lohr
197	Oregon, Queen of the Sea. Two-step Robinson Orvetta Waltz	174	
191	Over the Waves Waltz Rosas Please Do Waltz Durkee	306 314	Peace to Thy Spirit. Duet Verdi Peal of the Village Bell. Chorus
193	Post and Peasant Overture (Supper Reunier	254 148	Poor Girl didn't knew. Comic. Cooks
167	Red. White and Blue Forever. March Blake	136	Request, Sacred Grainger
143	Richmond March—two-step Missud Rustie Walts	208	
127 (A9	Rustling Leaves. Idylle Lange	224 332	She's Preaming of the Angels . Estabrooks
189	Schubert's Serenade. Transcription List	124	Softly shine the Stars of Evening Dinamore
161	Silvery Waves, Variations Wyman	120	Storm at Sea. Descriptive Hullah
169 295 259	Souvenir of the Ball Waltz	278	Summer Shower
259	Stanha nie Polka - Mahrhach	206	There's Sure to be a Way . Delano
151	Storin, The. Philiation of Mature French	334	Thinking of Home and Mother Cohen "Tis years since I parted dear Mother ! Irwis Titania's Cradle . Lehmonn
109	Sultan's Band March. Brown	334 292 108	Trea d softly the Angels are calling Turner
223	Twilight Echoes, Song without words Jewell	38	True to the Last . Adams
		252 84 58	What are the Wild Waves Saying? Duet Glover When the Roses are Blooming Again Station
203	Warblings at Eve	186	Warn or Boar What are the Wild Waves Saying Duet Giver When the Roses are Blooming Again Skelly Whistling Wife The Comic Romdoll Why am I ever Watching deLasside Why do Summer Roses Fade Barker
261	Wedding March . Mendelssohn	218	Why do Summer Roses Fade . Barker
118	Woodland Whispers Waltres Stanley	300	Yellow Boses
301	Yacht Waltz Dinemore	822	Zelma Lee. Chorus Estabrooke
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This subject has received no little attention.

This subject has received no little attention by minent men and even college professors.

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